

wherein each further device's ability to carry out its respective function is dependent upon electronic features and resources of at least one of the main devices exchanging data with the further device.

22. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the main device comprises a means for holding a medication cartridge, a means for delivering medication by transferring a part of or all of a medication contained in the cartridge from the medication cartridge to a user, means for receiving one or more further devices and means for supplying electric energy to the main device and the further devices.

23. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the main device further comprises electronic means for monitoring and controlling the medication delivery and for communicating with the further device(s) and with a user.

24. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the medication cartridge is replaceable and has an outlet and a movable wall that, when displaced in the direction of the outlet, forces the contents of the cartridge through the outlet.

25. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the outlet of the cartridge is connected to a replaceable catheter and the means for transferring medication to a user is adapted to work in a continuous mode so that the medication is forced out of the cartridge through an outlet in the catheter.

26. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the means for delivering medication by transferring a part of or all of the medication from the cartridge to the user at least comprises: a piston rod being operable to engage and displace a movable wall, electrically driven actuating means, and driving means for transferring movement from the actuating electrically driven actuating means to a piston rod.

27. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the means for receiving the further devices comprises a means for mechanically receiving and fixing the further devices to the main device, means for electrically connecting the further devices to electronic means of the main device, and to the means for supplying electric energy.

28. (New) A medication delivery device according to claim 23, wherein the electronic means for monitoring and controlling the medication delivery and for communication with the further devices and the user are contained in the main device.

29. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the electronic means comprises a means for controlling a delivered dose by controlling the displacement of the movable wall with the piston rod, through a control of the electrically drive actuating means via the driving means to the piston rod and means for monitoring the volume of delivered medication corresponding to the displacement of the movable wall, means for communication and means for controlling the function of the main device and the further devices, processing means for processing input data, for processing received data from the further and for processing data stored in the memory means, and a display for visualizing the data.

30. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the electronic means includes a means for reading an item of information on a replaceable medication cartridge when the cartridge is placed in the means for holding the replaceable medication cartridge and a means for processing the item of information.

31. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the electronic means are adapted to receive a user specific unit containing user data, function check procedures and user authorizing procedures.

32. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the user specific unit is a chip card.

33. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the further devices are chosen from the group consisting of:

a blood glucose monitor;

a continuous blood glucose monitor;

a means for allowing communication with a data communications network;

a wireless means for communication with other devices;

a replaceable module containing fixed wire interfaces for communication with one or more of a personal computer, a camera, a TV-monitor, an acoustic device, a telephone, a mobile telephone;

a replaceable module containing the functionality of a mobile telephone;

a replaceable module containing a loudspeaker;

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a replaceable module containing a microphone, a loudspeaker and a processor and software for speech recognition for providing a voice interface;

a replaceable module containing means for monitoring the temperature of the medication cartridge and its contents;

a replaceable module containing means for monitoring and controlling the temperature of the medication cartridge and its contents;

a replaceable module containing means for providing a selectable acoustic or vibratory or optical signal after a certain settable time or on the occurrence of a certain event;

a replaceable module containing means for vibrating the contents of the medication cartridge, and means for providing an alarm signal indicating the elapsing of a settable time to ensure a proper mixing of the constituents of the medication cartridge;

a replaceable module containing means for detecting shaking movements of the medication delivery device and means for providing an alarm signal indicating that a certain amount of shaking movements has been performed to ensure a proper mixing of the constituents of the medication cartridge.

a replaceable module containing software for controlling the medication delivery at settable velocities, controlled time scales, and/or maximum delivered doses, etc.;

a replaceable module containing software for generating a log of certain user defined events monitored by the medication delivery device;

a replaceable module containing software for controlling a user ID;

a replaceable module containing a display adapted for left-handed use;

a replaceable module containing a display adapted for right-handed use;

a replaceable module containing means for delivering a specific dose profile to a user through a catheter by controlling said means for transferring the medication in such a way that a continuous pump mode is provided.

34. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the main device and further devices are provide with replaceable covers

35. (New) A medical apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the main device may be locked.

36. (New) A method of making a medical apparatus, comprising the steps of:

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choosing a group of functions to be performed in the course of treating a condition,  
defining and constructing one or more primary devices for performing a first function or first functions;

providing the primary device with all electronic and mechanical resources needed to carryout the first function and to allow the primary device to function as a stand-alone unit;  
defining and constructing a secondary device for carrying out a second function wherein the secondary device is configured to cooperate electronically and mechanically with the primary device, to share resources with the primary device, to exchange data with the primary device and wherein the secondary device is incapable of carrying out the second function unless and until it shares resources with the primary device and communicates with the primary device.  
assembling an apparatus for performing the selected function by combining at least one of the primary devices with one or more secondary devices.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein a user performs the steps of choosing the function and combining the at least one primary device with one or more secondary devices.

38. (New). A kit for allowing a user to build a mechanical apparatus for assisting in the self-treatment of a medical condition, wherein the medical self-treatment comprises a series of process steps determined by the user, the kit comprising:

(i) one or more main devices having a control means, a communication means, an input means, and a power source, the main device(s) configured to perform a primary function(s) and to communicate with one or more secondary devices and to control one or more secondary device, and

(ii) one or more secondary devices, each secondary device configured to perform a secondary function that is separate and distinct from the primary function(s), but each secondary device being inoperable without the primary device;

(iii) a means for coupling the primary device(s) to the secondary device(s) so that the secondary device may communicate and share resources with the primary device and thereby become operable;

wherein the user may combine one or more primary devices with one or more secondary devices to construct a customized medical apparatus for performing user defined process steps for use in treating the medical condition.